



STATE OF MONTANA
DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION
ARCHITECTURE AND ENGINEERING DIVISION
1520 East Sixth Avenue • P.O. Box 200103 • Helena, Montana 59620-0103
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TO: ALL ARCHITECTS/ENGINEERS OF RECORD

FROM: Thomas B. O'Connell, Administrator
Architecture & Engineering Division
1520 East Sixth Avenue, Rm 33
P O Box 200103
Helena MT 59620-0103

DATE: February 24, 2012

RE: REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

Firms interested in being considered for an interview for the project(s) on the attached pages must follow these procedures:

- Submit two (2) copies of Form 115 for each project, which can be found at <http://architecture.mt.gov/default.mcp.x>. Further instructions for filling out the form are on the 115. Information in addition to the 115 is acceptable.
- Form 115 submissions must be received at the A&E office no later than 5:00 p.m. on **Thursday, March 8, 2012**. Please submit originals only; faxes or e-mails of qualifications will not be accepted, nor will submissions received after the deadline.

Firms selected for an interview on the project:

- Will be given the initial information document and interview questions.
- Will be asked to present their credentials before an interview committee. The committee will then submit the names of three (3) qualified firms to the Department of Administration Director, who will appoint one firm for that project in accordance with 18-2-112 MCA.

If your firm did not receive this notice by email (or have specifically requested hardcopy only), we will conclude you no longer desire these notifications and **this is the final RFQ your firm with receive** without providing an FY12-13 Statement of Qualifications for our files.

The state of Montana makes reasonable accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with an applicant's ability to compete in the application and selection process or that may interfere with an applicant's ability to perform the essential duties of the job. In order for the state to make such accommodations, applicants must make known any needed accommodation to the individual project managers or agency contacts listed. Persons using TDD may call the Montana Relay Service at 1-800-253-4091.

**SOUTHWEST MONTANA VETERANS' HOME (SWMVH)
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (DPHHS)
BUTTE, MT, A/E# 2011-27-01; FAI 30-004**

In response to the need for a new veterans' home in southwest Montana, House Bill #296 of the 62nd Legislative Session authorized the design and construction of the new Southwest Montana Veterans' Home in Butte, Montana. In 2009, the SWMVH went through a site selection process as authorized by HB #213 of the 61st Legislative Session wherein DPHHS and the A&E Division were assisted by CTA Architects Engineers acting in a site advisory capacity and in the development of a concept and cost estimate.

Currently, veterans' home design must be in accordance with the Community Living Center (CLC) Design Guide for the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and State Veterans' Homes (SVH) and is a departure from previous nursing home concepts that were based on institutional models. Present thinking is focused on veterans' needs with the challenge of putting the concept of "home" back into Nursing Home. Among the most important aspects of nursing care is instilling and maintaining within each resident a sense of importance, empowerment, and control. CLC is the acronym to be used when referring to VA State Veterans' Homes. (*Community Living Centers Design Guide 2011*, Department of Veterans Affairs <http://www.cfm.va.gov/til/dGuide.asp>)

An initial amount of \$475,000 of state special revenue for preliminary design was authorized in HB #5, 62nd Session. The total project budget of \$13,750,000, inclusive of the \$475K, consists of:

- \$4,812,400 of state special revenue (authorized in HB #296, 62nd Session); and,
- \$8,937,500 of potential Federal VA grant funds (authorized in HB #296, 62nd Session).

Prerequisites for the design of the SWMVH are experience with design and construction of cottage concept or senior living communities, experience with federal and state review processes (particularly those of Veterans Affairs), and skills in leading a diverse building committee.

The design team selected for this project will be required to provide the following services:

- The design is required to integrate and optimize highly performing building attributes including energy efficiency (20% below *International Energy Conservation Code Current Edition*), durability, and life-cycle performance;
- Interactive, intense, and rapid Programming;
- Schematic Design and Design Development (35% CD Submittal);
- Construction Documents, Bidding, and Construction Administration (if the VA grant funds are realized); and,
- Additional services may include Environmental Surveys and Assessments.

Firms submitting for the project must be able to commit the necessary resources to meet the following critical deadlines:

- Submit RFQ response by March 8, 2012 (short-listing for interviews is March 9th);
- If short-listed, be available for interviews in Helena on March 23, 2012;
- Immediately commence programming and concept efforts on or before April 2, 2012;
- Complete a formal 35% CD Submittal (inclusive of any required environmental surveys/assessments) to be delivered to the VA not later than August 15, 2012; and,
- Should the VA approve the grant request, complete the full design and bid the project within 180 calendar days of approval (notification assumed to be on or about October 1, 2012).

Respondents shall submit fully detailed information to provide the state with all information necessary to confirm qualifications and to demonstrate their team's level of experience in the required fields. Required information includes: qualifications of professional personnel to be assigned to the project and related project experience. Documentation of experience with VA-funded projects and the CLC is helpful.

For more information contact A&E Division project manager Paul Blumenthal at (406) 444-3333 or pblumenthal@mt.gov

cc: Kelly Williams, State Long Term Care, DPHHS

[End of RFQ Solicitation]